been examined since the land is yet to be acquired by the Government of Karnataka.

Air station at Rathnagiri, Maharashtra

1675. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an air station is likely to be set up at Rathnagiri in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction; and

(c) by when it would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Boosting framework of defence document with US

1676. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for further boosting the framework of defence document with US signed last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the status of the framework?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) During the visit of Raksha Mantri to United States of America (USA) in June 2005, a document entitled 'New Framework for United States-India Defence Relationship' was signed. The New Framework is a statement of intent of the broad areas cooperation between the United States and India. It does not contain any commitments or obligations.